# Step by Step:

# Create Performance Plan (Supervisor), Higher Level Approval

#### **Introduction and Audience**

This guide now includes Higher Level Reviewer functionality.

The instructions below provide step by step instructions for creating a new performance plan in the DCPDS Performance Appraisal Application (PAA), approving the job objectives, obtaining the employee's acknowledgement, obtaining higher level reviewer approval, and approving the plan. They also provide the steps that the Higher Level Reviewer performs to review and approve the plan.

A separate guide is available covering the employee steps in this process.

Performance plans can be created by either the employee or the supervisor (rating official). These guides cover both of these approaches.

If you have performance plans that were set up and "approved" prior to the addition of the Higher Level Reviewer functionality (Apr 2007), you will follow a different process for documenting the Higher Level Reviewer's name and approval date. See pages 18-20.

#### **Overall Process**

The following table describes the overall process for establishing a performance plan. The reference column refers to the page number in this document (Supervisor Step-by-Step Guide) or the Employee Step-by-Step Guide:

Step	Description	Performed By	Reference
1	Create performance plan, transfer to rating official	Employee	Empl-3
	Create performance plan	Rating Offcl	Supv-3
2	Enter weights, approve objectives, transfer to higher	Rating Offcl	Supv-7
	level reviewer		
3	Review and approve (or return) plan, transfer to rating	Higher Level	Supv-13
	official	Reviewer	
4	Transfer plan to employee	Rating Offcl	Supv-16
5	Acknowledge perf plan, transfer to rating official	Employee	Empl-7
6	Approve overall plan	Rating Offcl	Supv-17

#### For more information, help, and problems

The Performance Appraisal Application (PAA) User Guide from CPMS is located at: <a href="http://www.chra.army.mil/NSPS-training/how-to\_videos.htm">http://www.chra.army.mil/NSPS-training/how-to\_videos.htm</a>. This guide contains thorough coverage of some of the primary tasks in the PAA and is particularly useful in describing the overall appraisal process.

There is also a supplement to the CPMS Guide specifically on the Higher Level Reviewer processes, available on the same website.

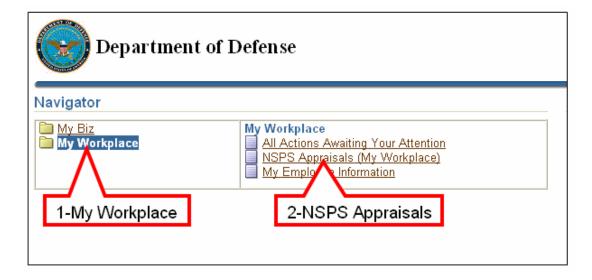
#### **Accessing the Performance Appraisal Application (PAA)**

If you are not familiar with the PAA, you access it through the CPOL Employee portal, Employee tab. See the how-to guides and movies at <a href="http://www.chra.army.mil/NSPS-training/how-to\_videos.htm">http://www.chra.army.mil/NSPS-training/how-to\_videos.htm</a> or download the step-by-step Word guide at: <a href="http://www.chra.army.mil/NSPS-training/NSPS">http://www.chra.army.mil/NSPS-training/NSPS</a> Vids/MyBiz MyWorkplace Step Guide Jan07.doc

The rest of these instructions assume that you have logged into the performance appraisal application through My Biz.

### **Accessing My Workplace**

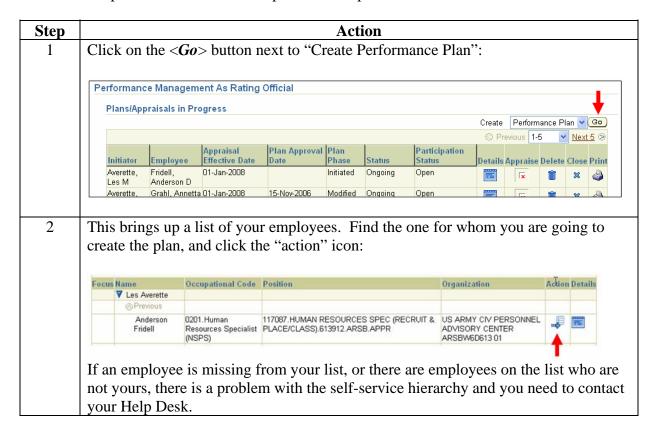
For supervisors, the appraisal tool is located under My Workplace, which is accessed through the CPOL Portal. Instructions for accessing this application are available separately. These instructions assume that you have already logged into DCPDS. Click the "My Workplace" link, then the "NSPS Appraisals (My Workplace)" link:



Note: If your employee has created the performance plan, you will only need to add weights to the job objectives. Start at the section titled, "Employee Created Plan – Add Weights," on page 6.

#### **Create the Performance Plan**

Follow the steps below to create a new performance plan:



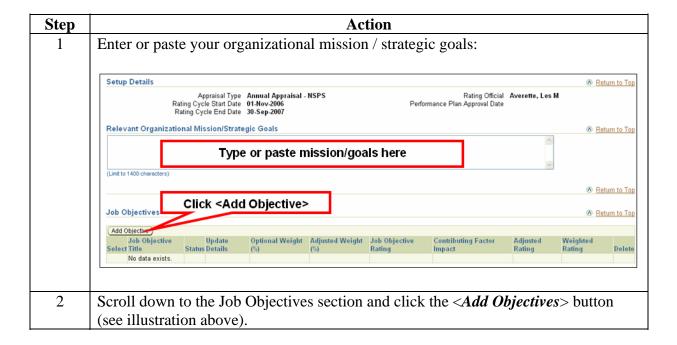
3 Complete setup details as follows, paying particular attention to the items with arrows (use the calendar icons for all date changes, or type in the dates using the same format as shown): Setup Details Current Base Salary 47670 Minimum Pay Band Level 38175 Maximum Pay Band Level 85578 \* Indicates required field \* Appraisal Type | Annual Appraisal - NSPS \* Rating Cycle Start Date 01-Nov-2006 (example: 14-Nov-2006) \* Rating Cycle End Date | 30-Sep-2007 (example: 14-Nov-2006) Performance Plan Approval Date (example: 14-Nov-2006) Performance Plan End Date 30-Sep-2007 (example: 14-Nov-2006) \* Appraisal Effective Date 01-Jan-2008 \* Rating Official | Averette, Les M \* Performance Indicators Professional/Analytic Band 2 • Appraisal Type: Annual Appraisal • Rating Cycle Start Date: 12 Jan 2007 (or whatever date you converted to NSPS\*) • Rating Cycle End Date: 30-Sep-2007 (or 31-Oct 2007 if your organization has elected to use an extended rating period for the first cycle). • Performance Plan Approval Date: Leave blank for now. • Performance Plan End Date: 30-Sep-2007 (or 31-Oct-2007) (same as cycle end date above). • Appraisal Effective Date: Leave as 01-Jan-2008 (do **NOT** change this date). \* For a new employee, use that employee's entry-on-duty date. 4 Click <Next> to go to step 2. \* Performance Indicators Professional/Analytic Bar 2 0 Cancel Save and Continue Transfer to Employee Step 1 of 3 Next

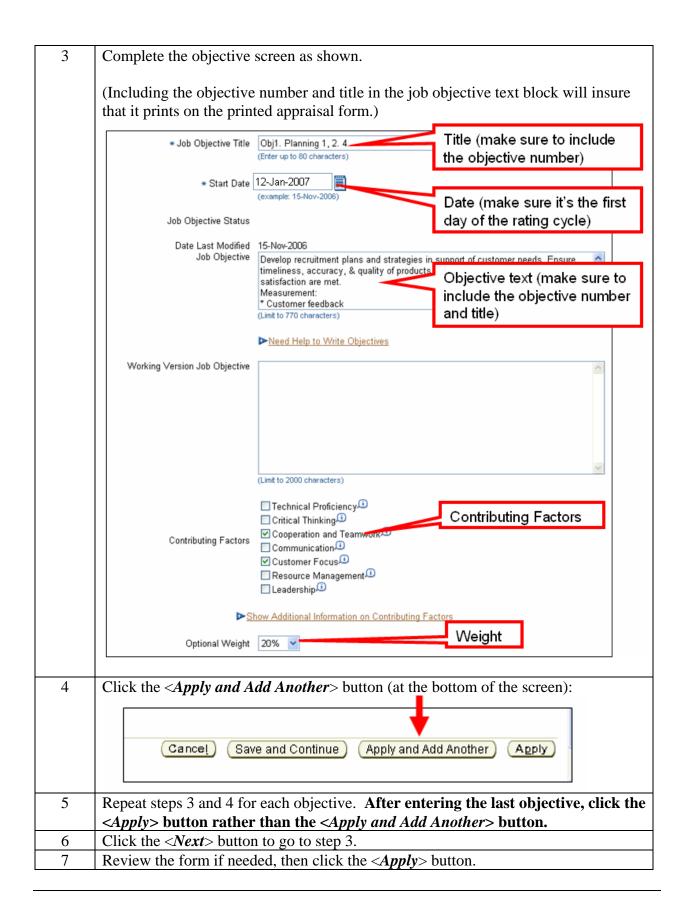
# Adding the Organizational Mission / Strategic Goals and Job Objectives

Follow the steps below to add the organizational mission / strategic goals and the job objectives. Note, the mission / goals and the text of the job objectives can be copied and pasted from a fillable form version of the DD Form 2906 (if you have already set up the performance plan

using that form), or from a Word or other document. You can also type the entries in from scratch.

Note, if you are copying and pasting from Word, be sure to see the "Special Characters" section at the bottom of this document.

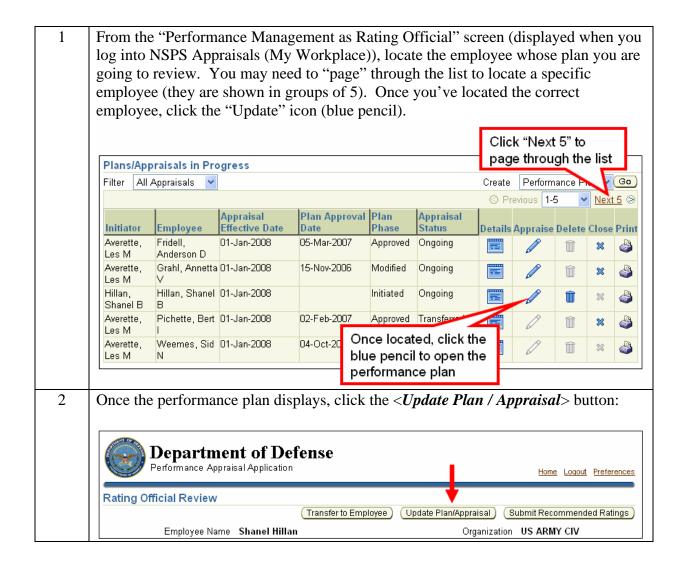




#### **Employee Created Plan – Add Weights to Objectives**

If your employee created the performance plan, follow these steps to review the objectives and add weights. This assumes that the employee has transferred the plan to you, but if the employee's name is not on your list of "Plans / Appraisals in Progress," the employee has not yet transferred the plan to you.

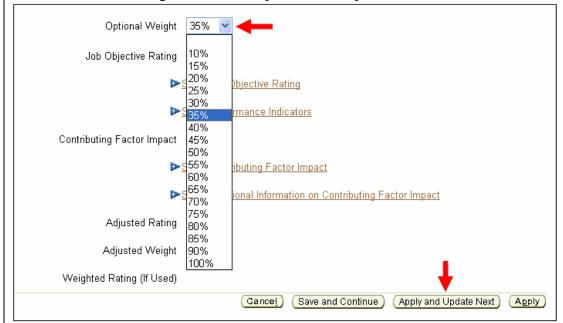
Note: If you created the employee's performance plan (following the instructions above), skip this step – you will have added the weights while entering the job objectives. Start at the section titled, "Approve the Objectives," on page 9



Scroll down to the "Job Objectives" area and click the blue pencil by the first (top) objective (note, if you do not need to review the objectives, you can enter the weights right on this screen):



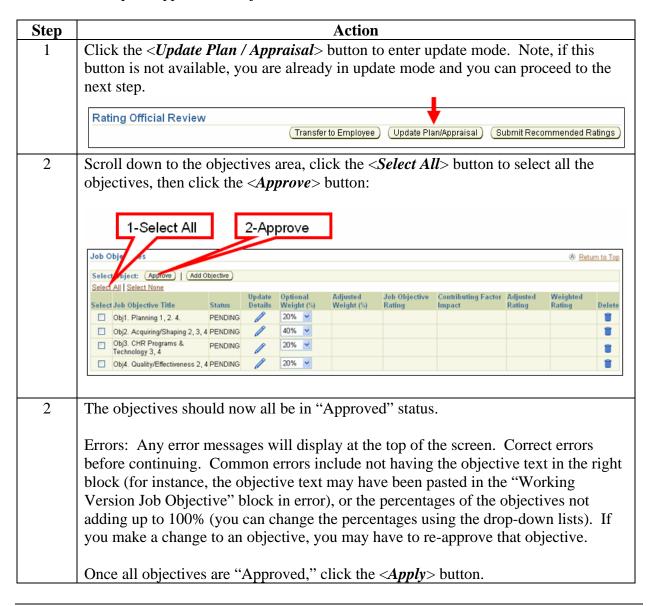
Review the objective and make any changes. Scroll down to see the entire objective and to locate the weight. Add in the weight using the drop-down list, making sure that the total of the weights of all the objectives add up to 100%:



- 5 Click the *Apply and Update Next>* button to go to the next objective.
- Repeat steps 4 and 5 until you reach the last objective. **After entering the last objective, click the** *Apply>* **button rather than the** *Apply and Update Next>* **button.**
- Go to **step 2** of the next section ("Approve the Objectives and Transfer to Employee").

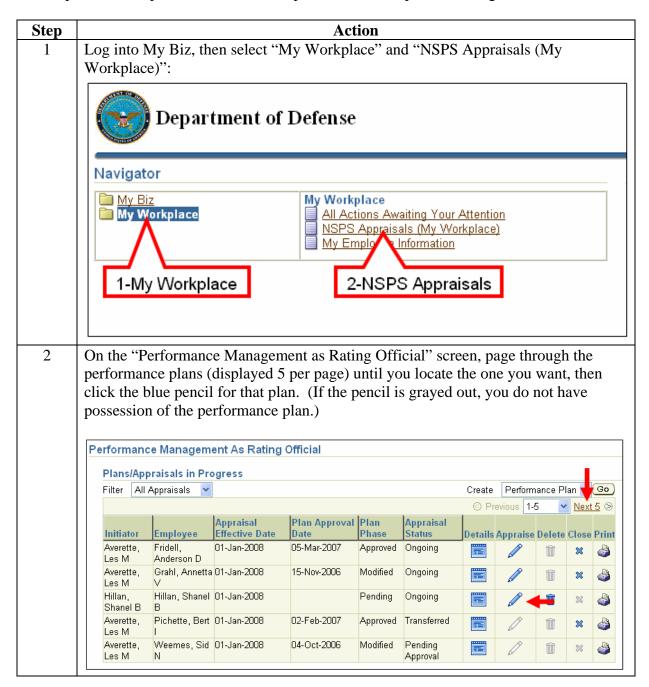
## **Approve the Objectives**

Follow these steps to approve the objectives:



#### Transfer Plan to Higher Level Reviewer

Once the objectives have been approved, you transfer the plan to the higher level reviewer (HLR) for review and approval. This approval must be obtained before you can approve the overall performance plan. Follow these steps to transfer the plan to the higher level reviewer:



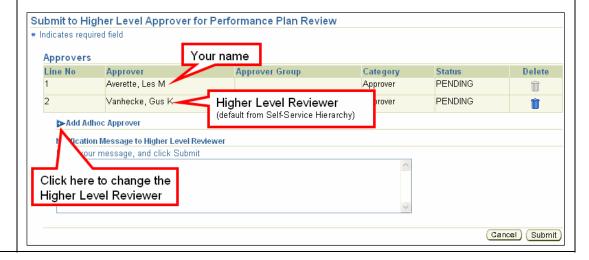
Scroll down to the "Approvals and Acknowledgements" area at the very bottom of the screen. At this point, the *Approve*> button is grayed out (the higher level reviewer approval is required before you can approve the plan).

Click the < *Request*> button to begin the process of sending the plan to the Higher Level Reviewer:

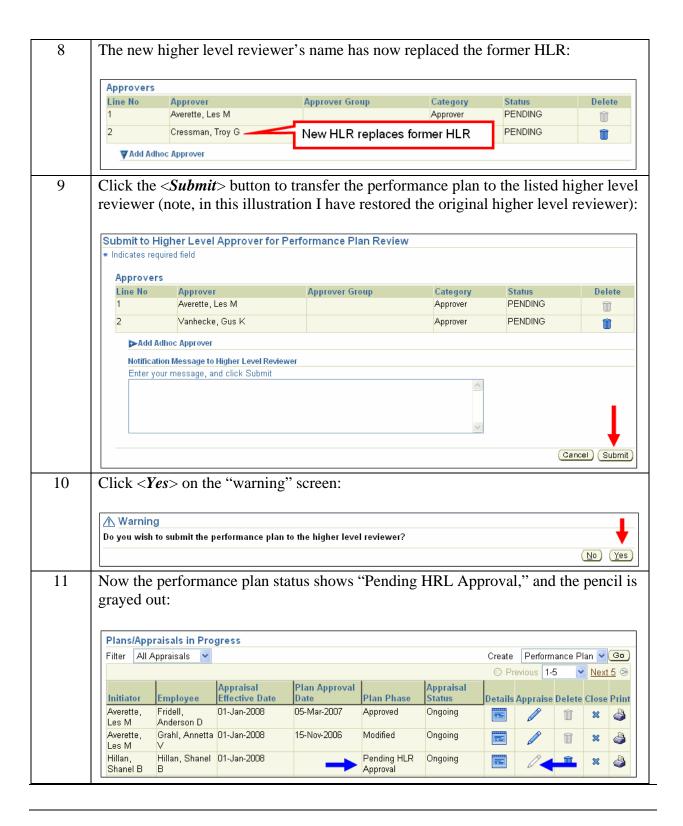


The HLR submission screen shows your name as the first approver, and your default higher level reviewer from the self-service hierarchy on Line No. 2.

If this is the correct HLR, go to step 9. If not, click the <u>triangle</u> button next to "Add Adhoc Approver" and continue with step 5 below.

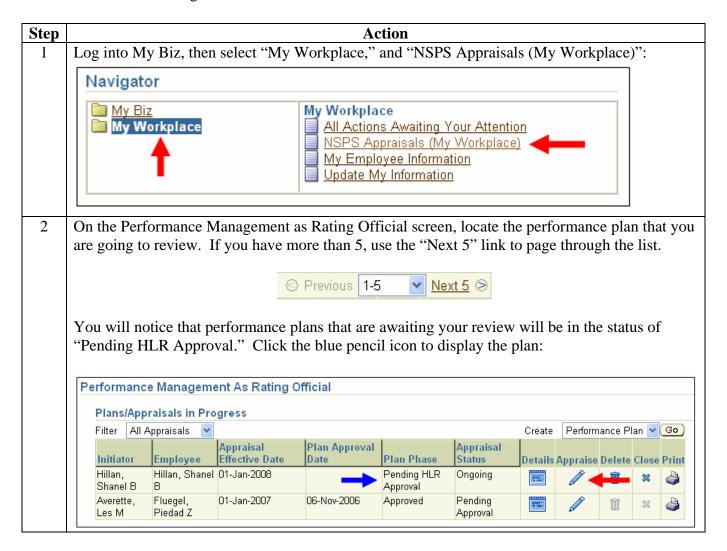


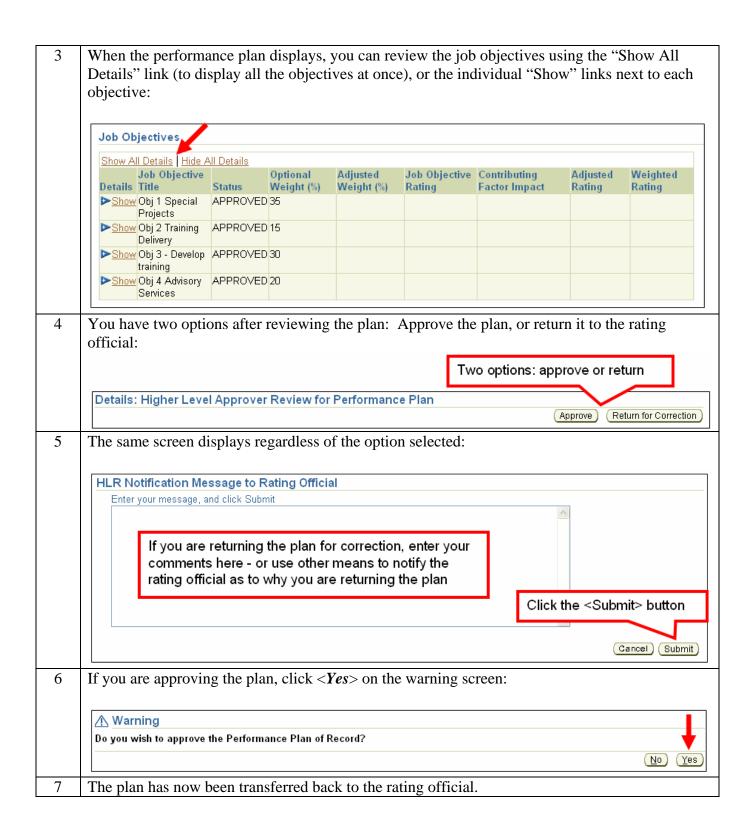
The "Add Adhoc Approver" section displays. Type in the name of the new HLR, 5 followed by the wild card (%), then click the flashlight icon. Format for searching is Last Name (comma) First Name (or initial) (wildcard %). In this example, I am searching for Troy Cressman: Approvers Delete Line No Approver Approver Group Category Status Averette, Les M PENDING Approver Î Vanhecke, Gus K Approver PENDING Add Adhoc Approver HR People V Approver Type 2. Click search icon Approver Cressman, T1% Category Approver 🕶 1. Type last name, first Insertion Point Averette, Les M 🔻 initial of HLR followed by % Add ) 6 A list of matching names will display. When you locate the correct name on the matching list, click the "Quick Select" icon. (If the name is not there, try modifying your search criteria (e.g., leave off the first initial, just search on the last name followed by the wild card.) Search and Select: Approver Cancel Select Search Enter a value in the text field, then select the Go button. You may use the "%" as a wildcard. Cressman, T% (Go) Search By Name Results Quick Business Job Title Organization Email Select Select Name Group 0525.Accounting Technician ROME OPLOC DD35N70000 01 Cressman, 0 CIVDODHR Tracey G (0525)Cressman, 0201. Human Resources USA CIV PERSONNEL OPS CTR, 0 CIVDODHR SOUTH CENT ARSEW6D6AA 01 Troy G Specialist (NSPS) Cancel Select 7 The new name will display in the Approver block. Click the <*Add>* button to proceed: Approvers Line No Delete Approver Group Category Status Approver Averette, Les M Approver PENDING Vanhecke, Gus K Approver PENDING m New Higher Level Add Adhoc Approver Reviewer's name HR People 💌 Approver Type Approver Cressman, Troy G Category Approver 🕶 New HLR will appear after Insertion Point Averette, Les M 🗸 the Insertion Point name Click < Add> button



# **Higher Level Reviewer**

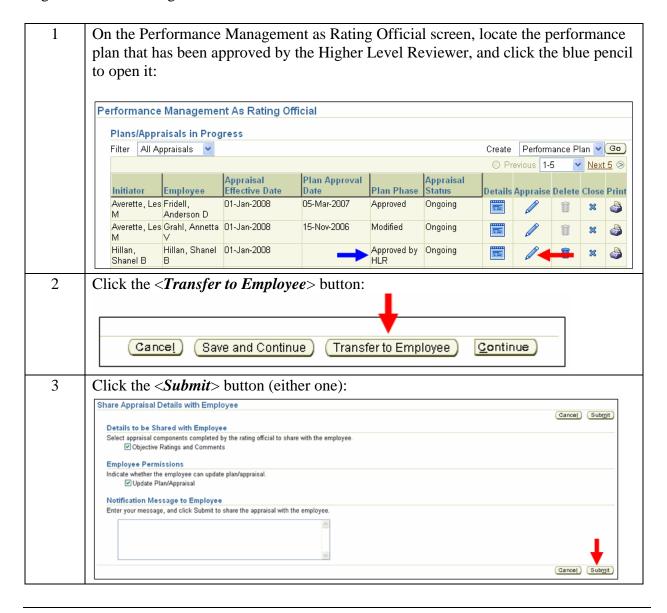
The Higher Level Reviewer performs the following steps when a Performance Plan has been transferred from the rating official:





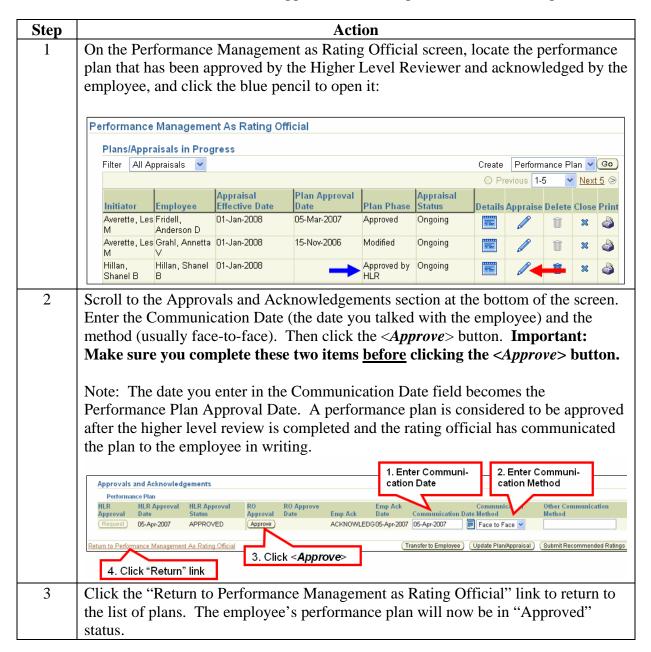
# Transfer to Employee for Acknowledgement

Once the Higher Level Reviewer has approved the plan, you need to transfer it to the employee to get their acknowledgement:



### **Approve the Performance Plan**

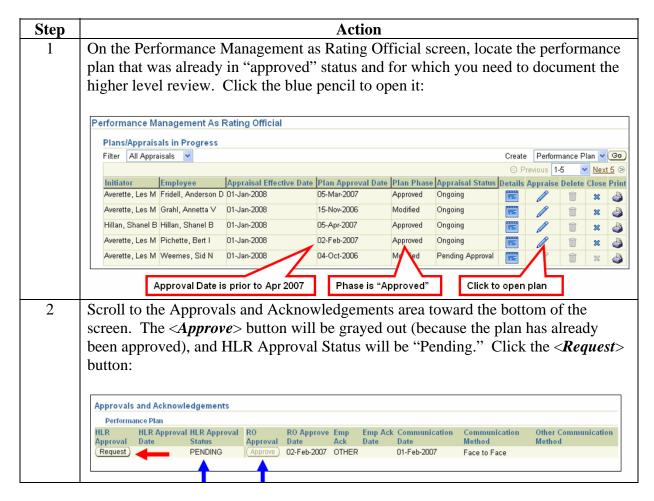
Once the employee has acknowledged the plan and transferred it back to you, you document the date and manner of communication, and approve the overall plan. Follow these steps:

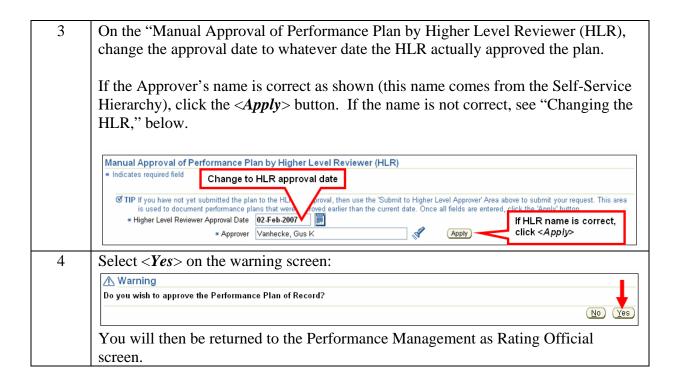


### **Documenting Higher Level Review (Approved Performance Plans)**

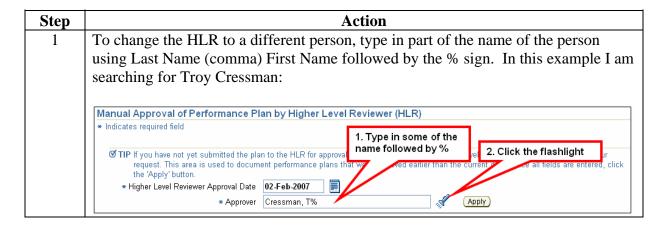
This section is only for performance plans that were approved prior to the addition of the Higher Level Reviewer functionality.

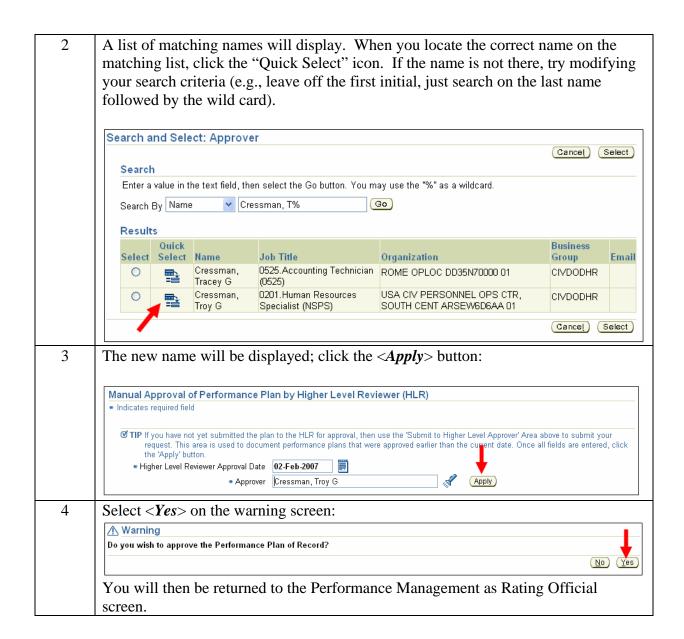
If you have performance plans that were created and approved prior to the addition of the Higher Level Reviewer functionality in the Performance Appraisal Application (i.e., prior to Apr 2007), you need to document that the higher level reviewer has approved the performance plan, and the date of this approval. Once the plan is in "approved" status, you cannot route it to the higher level reviewer. Follow these steps to document the higher level review:





# Changing the Higher Level Reviewer





### **Special Characters**

Certain "special characters" are present in some assessments that were prepared and copied into the PAA from Microsoft Word. These include smart quotes, long dashes, and apostrophes among others. In the PAA, other characters are substituted for these characters whenever an appraisal is saved. For the most part, these are "cosmetic" issues that don't affect the substance of the assessments, but in some cases, it may change the meaning of the text.

If you have special characters in the appraisal and want to remove them and replace them with their "non-special" equivalents (a hyphen for a long dash, regular straight quotes for "smart quotes," etc.), you can search the text blocks for any of the characters shown below. The PAA will replace special characters with either &#65533, or with a small box.

